



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

*Service Center*

*1102 Quince Street • Box 41155 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1155 • (360) 725-2200  
1-800-562-2308*

Dear Veteran:

Your request for information from the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) is appreciated. This letter, and the enclosed, is to assist you with the many benefits you may be entitled to. More detailed information can be obtained from our Service Center at (800) 562-2308, or from your nearest veteran's service office (i.e. The American Legion or VFW). The phone numbers to these organizations can be found in your local telephone directory in the Business section.

**Service Network:** WDVA has offices in Seattle, Tacoma, Vancouver and Spokane. We also receive assistance from veterans' service organizations throughout the state. You can call our toll-free number to find the location of your nearest veterans' service office.

**The Washington State Veterans Home in Retsil, Soldiers Home and Colony in Orting, and Spokane Veterans Home** are operated by the WDVA. These facilities provide high-quality, long-term nursing and assisted-living care for honorably discharged resident veterans. For further information please contact our Centralized Admissions Team at (887) 838-7787.

**State Park Passes** are free to veterans with service-connected disabilities of 30% or greater. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Service can be reached at (360) 902-8844. Please note that these passes are valid for use only in Washington State Parks. Golden Access Passes for National Parks are available, but eligibility varies by park. For information on National Parks you may contact the National Parks Service at (888) 467-2757.

**Reduced Hunting and Fishing Licenses Fees** are offered to veterans with service-connected disabilities of 30% or higher. Please contact Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife directly at (360) 902-2464.

**Reduced Public Transportation Fees** are offered to veterans with service-connected disabilities. Eligibility and discounts may vary by region, so please contact your local transit authority and/or state ferry system for details since this benefit is available in participating areas only.

**State Educational Benefits:** Tuition waivers or reductions may be available to resident veterans with wartime service attending public institutions of higher learning. For further information please contact the financial aid office, or veterans' coordinator, at the institution you are enrolled with or considering enrolling with. Note: This benefit is only available in participating public colleges and universities.

**Employment Preference** is given to qualified veterans, a surviving spouse, or a spouse of a permanently disabled veteran. For further information, contact the Washington State Department of Personnel at (360) 664-1960.

**Disabled Veterans License Plates:** Disabled veterans may be exempt from license fees on one vehicle each year. Specialized plates are available for their use and a permanent registration is issued with these specialized plates. Applicants need to have served in any branch of the armed forces of the United States, Reserves, or National Guard, and received:

An honorable discharge, or received a discharge for physical reasons with an honorable record and at least one of the following conditions:

- (a) A 100% service-connected disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the military service from which the veterans was discharged.
- (b) Has lost the use of both hands or one foot as the result of military service
- (c) Has become blind in both eyes as the result of military service
- (d) Was captured and incarcerated for more than twenty-nine days by an enemy of the United States during a period of war with the United States.

\*If you meet the above requirements please obtain a Letter of Eligibility for Free License Plates from the Federal VA in Seattle by calling (800) 827-1000. Once you receive the letter mail it and a copy of your vehicle registration or renewal notice to the Department of Licensing at P.O. Box 9043, Olympia, WA 98507. The process for submission and address information will also be explained, in detail, at the bottom of the eligibility letter.

**Property Tax Reductions** are available to lower income disabled and/or elderly persons. Please contact your county assessor's office for details on income and eligibility guidelines.

**Reemployment and Layoff Rights:** RCW 73.16.033 provides residents who are called to active military service with reemployment protection and rights. More information is available through your local Job Service Center.

**Veterans Assistance Fund:** A county program that may help eligible veterans and families with emergency financial or burial assistance. For further information please contact your county government's information office or our Service Center at (800) 562-2308.

You may find information on federal veterans' benefits by contacting the VA regional office at (800)827-1000, or online at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). Or for more information visit our website for the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs at [www.dva.wa.gov](http://www.dva.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs